

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 186592

55

ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /056 R

DRAFTED BY EA/TB - RASMITH:MFG

APPROVED BY EA/TB - GBROBERTS

----- 046811

P 281612Z JUL 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 186592

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TH, US

SUBJECT: COUP RUMORS

1. THE WASHINGTON POST PUBLISHED JULY 24 A LEWIS SIMONS ARTICLE WHICH HEADLINED "THAIS FEAR A RETURN TO MILITARY CONTROL". THE ARTICLE REPORTS THAT "WESTERN OBSERVERS" BELIEVE THAT THE THAI ARMY AND ITS POLITICAL ALLIES HAVE DECIDED TO OVERTURN THE CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT BECAUSE THAT GOVERNMENT IS MOVING TOO SWIFTLY TO "MEND FENCES" WITH THAILAND'S NEW COMMUNIST NEIGHBORS.

2. THE SIMONS ARTICLE HAS AROUSED INTEREST IN WASHINGTON ABOUT THE DEGREE OF THAI MILITARY DISSATISFACTION WITH THE SENI GOVERNMENT. WE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY COMMENT IN GENERAL AND SPECIFICALLY ON:

(A) WHERE HAS POWER GRAVITATED IN THE MILITARY SINCE THE DEATH OF GENERAL KRIT AND THE REASSIGNMENT OF PRAMAN?

(B) IS THERE SUBSTANCE TO REPORTS THAT THE THAI MILITARY HAVE TAKEN SPECIFIC ACTIONS (E.G., DEFOLIATION MISSIONS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 186592

WITHIN CAMBODIA) DESIGNED TO SABOTAGE THE MINISTRY OF

FOREIGN AFFAIRS' EFFORTS TO REACH A RAPPROCHEMENT WITH
THE INDOCHINA COUNTRIES?

(C) TO WHAT EXTENT HAS THE COMPLETION OF THE US MILI-
TARY WITHDRAWAL AND RECENT INSURGENT ATTACKS TENDED
TO UNITE THE THAI MILITARY IN OPPOSITION TO THE POLICIES
OF THE CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT?

(D) TO WHAT EXTENT ARE THE THAI MILITARY OR ELEMENTS
WITHIN THE THAI MILITARY CAPABLE OF MOUNTING A COUP? KISSINGER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, PRESS COMMENTS, MILITARY GOVERNMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ullricre
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE186592
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RASMITH:MFG
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760291-1141
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760712/aaaaaksu.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ullricre
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 JUL 2004 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <12 OCT 2004 by ullricre>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COUP RUMORS
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, PGOV, TH, US
To: BANGKOK
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006